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SOURCE Patriot Rodiny.

DOSAAF STRESSES ANTIAIRCRAFT AND CHEMICAL DEFENSE TRAINING

In a lead article appearing in Patriot Rodiny for 9 December 1951, the Organizational Committee of the All-Union Volunteer Society for Cooperation With the Army, Air Force, and Navy (Dosaaf) voiced its discontent with the present conduct of PVKhO (antiaircraft and chemical defense) training and demanded of its subordinate organizational committees "a sharp improvement in the training of members of the society and the population in all aspects of anti-aircraft and chemical defense."

Emphasizing the fact that the national interests call for further strengthening of the country's might through an increase in defense activity, the committee termed antiaircraft and chemical defense training a vital part of the work of Dosaaf organizations and a task of great state importance. It called for the organization of PVKhO study and local defense groups at every enterprise, kolkhoz, sovkhoz, MTS, institution, and educational institute, every large residential building, and under every house management.

The society's primary organizations were criticized for poorly organizing the training process, particularly practical training, for underestimating mass PVKhO measures, and for failing to strive for a high level of instruction. Primary organizations in Novgorod and Amur oblasts, the North Osetian ASSR, and the Karelo-Finnish SSR were taken to task for allowing PVKhO study groups to "fall apart," and for failure to conduct competitions.

The Soviet people were urged by the committee to remember and to carry out Comrade Stalin's instructions to be on guard in times of peace and to protect the armed forces and the defensive capacity of the nation.

The importance of this phase of the society's work, according to the committee, was demonstrated during the late war when many hundreds of thousands of people, trained in methods of antiaircraft defense by the volunteer societies' study circles and schools, defended their enterprises, kolkhozes, institutions and homes from the Hitlerite air pirates through mastery of the art of the blackout, of rendering incendiary bombs harmless, of extinguishing fires, removing rubble, rendering first aid to the injured, and of standing duty in shelters and at local antiaircraft defense posts.

- 1 -

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The committee called for more concern over the training of members-instructors who are to lead PVKhO study and local defense groups, for providing the necessary training equipment, and for the establishment of an area for practical training. PVKhO sections under Dossaf rayon and city organizational committees were urged to give greater assistance to primary organizations in getting mass training work under way, to give methodological aid to instructors, to conduct mass competitions, and to promote the exchange of experience.

The society's committees were also called upon to attract more of their women members into PVKhO training activities.

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- 2 -

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